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VOL. XV, NO. 43.

GREENVILLE, KY., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1913.

50c. PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

## ORCHARD TOPICS

### PEACH LOUSE IS INJURIOUS

All Trees Should Be Carefully Fumigated by Nurserymen as a Matter of Precaution.

(By E. F. SMITH.)  
This insect derives its name from its intense black color and smooth, shining appearance. A great deal of the injury done by this insect is not recognized by the grower, who may change it to yellow, to applications made during the winter for other purposes, or to climatic causes. Where the insects are numerous on the roots the tree simply looks sick. The foliage is thin, imperfectly developed and light in color. The lice are especially destructive to nursery trees and to orchards just planted or in the second year.

Nursery trees, especially on light land, are often infested if such trees are set out without treatment. The insects may multiply without causing much or any perceptible injury the first season, confining themselves to the trunk and larger roots close to it. At the beginning of the second season the insects spread outward to the smaller rootlets, increase in number so as to form a drain on the vitality of the tree and then the check to growth becomes apparent. If the tree sustains itself during the second year it will probably continue to live and may outgrow injury, especially if well fed. But a tree so checked and weakened in early life rarely does what it should, and is apt to be at



Black Peach Louse as it Appears on Roots of Young Peach Trees.

tacked by disease and insects, like the bark beetles, which need some debilitated trees for their best development. All peach trees should be carefully fumigated by the nurseryman as a matter of precaution and, if properly done, this is entirely safe.

Where the trees have not been so treated they should be very carefully inspected before setting, and if any signs of plant lice are noted, the roots should be washed so as to free them of most of the dirt and then dipped in a strong tobacco decoction. The dipping should be thorough and should be done just before setting. Instead of dipping in a decoction, the washed roots may be thoroughly dusted with finely ground tobacco when setting and a handful of ground tobacco should be thrown around the trunk before filling the hole and firming.

A young orchard is found to be infested after it has been set, remove the soil for a foot around the trunk so as to form a shallow basin, put in a pound of ground tobacco and cover. See that the trees are kept well cultivated and supplied with sufficient plant food to stimulate rapid and vigorous growth.

### HANDLING OF ORCHARD SOILS

Combination of Clean Cultivation With Cover Crops is Best Scheme, Says Ohio Expert.

(By PROF. WENDELL PADDOCK, Ohio College of Agriculture.)

Probably the best scheme ever devised for handling the majority of orchard soils, where the lay of the land will permit, is a combination of clean cultivation with cover crops. This method includes the plowing of the land as early in the season as the weather will permit. The plow is followed, at intervals, by the harrow, in order that the surface of the soil may be kept mellow throughout the growing season. Usually in the latter part of July or the first of August, at the close of the growing season for trees, a crop of some kind is planted and this is allowed to occupy the land until the next spring. The land is plowed again as early as possible and this is followed by clean cultivation and a cover crop as before.

**Plums Are Hardy.**  
Plums are hardy—they thrive with very little care. A rotten rock or a deep sandy loam will grow this fruit to perfection.

### SERVING EGGS AND OMELETS

New and Effective Ways of Preparing Staples for the Breakfast or Luncheon.

**Omelet, Trouville.**—Beat the yolks of half a dozen eggs till they are almost white, then beat the whites for the same time and pour them over the yolks; add a dessertspoonful of chopped mushrooms, a teaspoonful of mixed herbs, a dessertspoonful of finely chopped parsley, a few drops of lemon juice, pepper and salt, six table-spoonfuls of milk and three table-spoonfuls of flour, and beat all well together for at least five minutes. Peel a small onion, slice and fry in butter. When the butter is boiling hot take out the onion and pour in the omelet. Hold the pan over the fire in rather a slanting position to keep the omelet from spreading. When fried a light brown fold over and serve very hot. A little grated cheese is sometimes added to this omelet.

**Eggs in cases.**—Make some paper cases about three inches square, butter them well inside and half fill them with sifted bread crumbs seasoned with chopped parsley and a small quantity of cayenne and salt. Stick small pieces of butter over the bread crumbs, break an egg into each and add bread crumbs prepared as before till the cases are full. Put them into an oven or on a gridiron over a clear fire for three minutes. Serve hot.

**Eggs, Italian.**—Boil the eggs hard, cut them in halves, take out the yolks, weigh the latter and place them in a mortar and pound together with a little bread crumbs soaked in cream, chopped parsley, one anchovy, a little chopped onion, grated nutmeg, pepper and salt. Put the mixture into a saucepan and cook to a thick paste, adding a little cream or gravy. Fill the cavities of the whites with this and serve cold with a salad, or hot in sauce or on a purée of vegetables.

**Eggs, Sultan.**—Put into a bowl the yolks of three eggs with a table-spoonful of chutney and a table-spoonful of a half olive oil and beat well. Break half a dozen eggs, one at a time, into a teacup, put them one by one on the sauce and set the dish into a moderate oven until the eggs are set, but not overdone. Serve on the same dish, very hot.

**Spanish eggs.**—Put into a saucepan a breakfast cupful of washed rice with a quart of milk, add half a table-spoonful of salt and boil till done. Strain the rice, drain on a colander and put into a bowl. Add two ounces of butter, mix well and spread evenly on a dish. Cut into slices six hard boiled eggs, arrange on the rice and serve.

**Beet Greens.**  
Choose very young beets. Wash with care, taking care that the skin is not broken. Cut off the leaves one inch above the best. Cook the beets in boiling salted water until tender. If very young, this may take only 45 minutes. Twenty minutes before the beets are done, place the greens in boiling salted water and cook with the cover off. Remove the beets from the water, peel, dice, season with salt, pepper and butter and place in serving dish. Drain the greens, chop and season, and place around the beets.

**Green Corn Puffs.**  
Beat two eggs until light, add one cup sweet milk, one half cup grated corn seasoned with salt and a dash of red pepper. Butter well six custard cups. Fill them half full of the mixture, place the cups in the largest cooling utensil, which has been sufficiently filled with boiling water to keep the cups from floating. Fill the cups about level full with soft grated cheese. Heat radiator 15 minutes and leave in the fireproof cooker one hour. Serve with tomato sauce.

**Beef Loaf.**  
Beef loaf, served cold, is an inexpensive cold meat. Mix a pound of fresh, chopped beef with half a pound of fat salt pork chopped fine. Bind them together with an egg and add salt, pepper, a little grated onion and then half a cupful each of milk and cracker crumbs. Roll into a loaf and bake for three-quarters of an hour, basting occasionally with hot water and melted butter.

**Children's Luncheon.**  
A favorite luncheon for small children with dainty appetites is made from a box of animal crackers, one of saltines and a cup of pure maple syrup. Boil in the syrup until it forms a soft ball when dropped in ice water. Then put a little on each saltine and press an animal into this in a standing position. Cream cheese and marmalade with saltines is also a good combination.

**Apple Pie Pudding.**  
Stew sliced apple until tender. Add two cups of sauce to three cups milk and about two cups of bread crumbs, broken in coarse pieces. Sprinkle with one and one-half cups white sugar, season with lemon, cinnamon or nutmeg, one-half cup raisins cut in halves, pinch of salt, piece of butter size of walnut. Bake one hour. Serve hot or cold with or without sauce. Whipped cream is delicious.

**To Keep Grapes.**  
Grapes may be kept for months. Select perfect bunches and see that the fruit is solid on the bunch. Remove all little spiders and their webs, but do not wash the fruit. Wrap each bunch carefully in dark blue tissue paper twisting the ends tightly to exclude the air, then pack the grapes away in a closely covered box, and keep the box a cool, dark, dry place.

## DAIRY FACTS

### FEED CALF SEPARATED MILK

Whole Wheat or Graham Flour Mush Takes Place of Cream—Eliminates Danger of Scours.

In feeding calves, separated milk sometimes should be given to take the place of the cream taken out of milk.

Make a mush of graham or whole wheat flour and add to the skim milk and the calves will do as well as on whole milk. A pint of flour will make a feed for three or four calves, says a writer in Farm Progress.

Take boiling water and stir flour into it the same as you would make mush of meal, being careful to not have it lumpy, so it will mix well with milk when added to it.

Give the calf new milk the first week or until the mother's milk is fit to use, then begin to add some skim milk with a little of the mush added. Decrease the new milk and increase skim milk and mush till calf is about three weeks old, when you can feed all skim milk and mush.

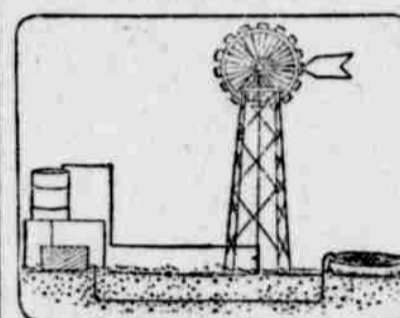
Calves fed in this way are not so liable to have scours as when they are fed on cornmeal, as the cooked wheat is good for troubles of that kind in calves.

Care should be taken to not over-feed calves, as that sometimes causes trouble with hand-fed calves. They should also have a nice green pasture to run in during summer, or if in winter, have some kind of bright, sweet hay to pick at, as they soon learn to eat such feed if they can get it.

### GETS PRESSURE BY GRAVITY

One of Best Arrangements Around Any Farm Is Sufficient Water Supply—One Idea Shown.

The handiest thing on the farm the year around is a good arrangement of the water supply. We have a screened porch on the west side of our house and adjoining this on the north is a milk room, writes F. E. Greathouse of Terryton, Kan., in the Farmer's Mail and Breeze. The well is 20 feet west of the milk house. Water is pumped through an overhead pipe into a 40-gallon galvanized iron tank, which overflows into a 10



Greathouse Water System.

foot milk trough. From this trough the water overflows through an underground pipe into an 8 by 16-foot stock tank. The stock tank overflows into an irrigating reservoir for the garden. The pump has a 4-inch cylinder and 2-inch pipe is used all around.

**Cows on Green Rye.**  
If cows are turned on to green rye pasture very gradually, there will be no bad effects on the milk. Dairy cows should not be allowed in it for more than fifteen or twenty minutes at first.

**Advantages of Dairying.**  
With dairying, the farmer can have money coming in every week of the year, he can become rich, and at the same time he can make his land more fertile than by any other system of farming.

## DAIRY NOTES

Milking into hooded pails means cleaner milk.

Usually the cream from stripper cows churns slowly.

The calf should be fed meal and chop dry. Do not put it in the milk. Cleanliness and low temperature are the fundamental needs in keeping milk.

The calves that are kept growing from the very start have the best chance.

Ground oats make splendid feed for practically all of the growing stock on the farm.

The more butter is washed the more flavor it loses. Good butter needs only one washing.

Whether times are hard or prosperous, the man with a few good cows holds good insurance.

Provided the cow is a good one, the more she is fed along the right lines the more she will give.

The successful dairy farmer who has the right idea of life is usually the most satisfactory neighbor.

The cow that gives the greatest profits, other things being equal, is the cow that has the best care.

Turn the bulky, unsalable raw materials of the farm into a finished, always-salable article, namely, butter.

Men who keep dual cows have either been misled by some false teacher or else have no desire to improve their herd.

### FEW PRACTICAL FARM HINTS

Field That Will Grow Crop of Strong Weeds Will Likewise Produce Crops That Are Profitable.

Did you ever realize that the field that will grow an immense crop of big strong weeds will likewise grow a good crop of farm produce if the soil is rightly taken care of? Weeds use plant food just as much as corn or small grain.

The weed is the one crop that never stops growing. It is right on the job from spring until fall and it doesn't need much cultivation either.

Potatoes should never be handled with iron forks or shovels. If any tools are used they should be made of wood, because the least abrasion of the skin will often start decay.

The home water system is no longer an impossibility. It can be installed in practically any farm home and it does not represent prohibitive cost.

Farm management is the thing that



Take up good strong roots of rhubarb; two-year-old seedlings being best in autumn; leave them out until after exposure to freezing, then crowd them together in boxes with a little soil between and under them and set them wherever wanted, or plant them out on the cellar bottom.

determines the profit of the farm, efficiency is just as important here as in an office.

A good fence is a necessity for a good garden. Some people grow garden vegetables for their live stock, but no wide-awake gardener does it.

Sweet potatoes or root crops may be kept in good condition by putting them in the cellar between layers of sand. Let the sand fill all spaces.

The celery for winter use should be hearted up gradually, banking the hearts well up against the stalks, nearly to the top of the leaves.

Gardens should be cleared from all remains of the season's crops and prepared for the next year.

Rotation of crops in the garden has the same arguments favoring it as rotation in farm crops.

### HOW A GARDEN MOLE LIVES

Little Creatures Have Remarkable Appetite, Feeding Entirely on Earthworms, Grubs and Insects.

Moles feed entirely on earth worms, burrowing grubs, and on insects, and have a remarkable appetite, together with love, passion and hatred in energy and voracity.

They are built particularly strong, full of muscle, and have a hand, spade-like, supplied with claws, making a capital digging machine.

In observing a mole when put on the ground after being caught, it will immediately plunge its sharp snout in the earth and give two or three fearful strikes of fore-paws enough to bury most of his body—the hind feet give a comical kick in the air and the mole gets out of sight with a startling quickness and find him if you can.

The mole hills which we see are not holes but composed of material which is worked over in forming temporary passages looking after prey.

A mole's only true home, fortress or kingdom, is located at a distance from the hunting grounds with which communication is kept up.

A mole will consume the weight of its body in a remarkably short time.

Snails and slugs it seizes from behind before they know a mole is after them. Another wonderful thing in how soon a mole will succumb without food, as a 12 hour's fast will result in death for the little animal and all of its family.

Therefore, the poor mole has to work hard most of its life for a living, and especially is this true in the winter.

### Swill for Pigs.

There is no reason why good, clean swill from the family table should not be fed to the pigs but it is a bad practice to force the pigs to eat sour and fermented swill.

**Success With Sheep.**  
Success with the ewes and lambs during pregnancy and lambing in no small measure depends upon the state of health of the ewes previous to and throughout the mating season.

**Foundation of Fattening.**  
The care of the young pigs is the foundation of the fattening of the market animal.

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